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Attorney Docket: 302,670-6  
(prev 265/071)

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph 0002 beginning on page 1, line 11 of the specification and ending on page 1, line 18 of the specification under the heading "Related Applications" and insert the following replacement paragraph:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 09/845,245, filed April 27, 2001, entitled "Methods and Apparatus for Use of Optical Forces for Identification, Characterization and/or Sorting of Particles", ~~which is related to Application Serial No. 09/843,902, filed on April 27, 2001, entitled "System and Method for Separating Micro-Particles", with named inventor Osman Kibar, which claims priority from provisional Application Serial No. 60/248,451, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Sorting Cells or Particles", filed November 13, 2000. Those applications are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.~~

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph 0002:

--This application is related to Application Serial No. 09/843,902, filed on April 27, 2001, entitled "System and Method for Separating Micro-Particles", with named inventor Osman Kibar, which claims priority from provisional Application Serial No. 60/248,451, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Sorting Cells or Particles", filed November 13, 2000. Those applications are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein.--